

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A magnetic disk array device is equipped with ATA magnetic disks,  
at least one disk array controller for controlling the ATA magnetic disks,  
5 and at least one processing offload function module provided between the  
disk array controller and the ATA magnetic disk. The disk array  
controller outputs one of a standard processing FC command for  
performing a standard processing such as a read or write processing, and  
an offload processing FC command for performing a vendor-unique offload  
10 processing. The processing offload function module performs a command  
mapping for the standard processing FC command and issues to the ATA  
magnetic disk a corresponding ATA command, and prepares a group of  
ATA commands for the offload processing FC command for optimum  
processing in an ATA protocol.

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